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March 28, 1796 –
April 23, 1796

# Journals of the Senate

State of Tennessee

At a General Assembly, begun and held at Knoxville the 28th day of March, in the year of Our Lord one thousand seven Hundred and ninety six, and in the twentieth year of American Independence, being the first Session of this Assembly.

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The returning officers of the following Counties certified that the following persons were duly elected to represent the same in this House. For Tennessee County James Ford; Sumner County James Winchester, Knox County James White, Jefferson County George Doherty, Green County Samuel Frazier, Washington County John Tipton, Sullivan County George Rutledge,

Pursuant to which, the following members appeared, and were Qualified, by taking the Oath prescribed by the Constitution of this State, for the qualification of members of the General Assembly

Francis Alexander Ramsey was appointed Clerk of this House, and Nathaniel Buckingham Assistant Clerk —

Thomas Bounds was appointed door keeper

Mr White proposed for Speaker, James Winchester Esq

Who was unanimouſly chosen and conducted to the Chair.

× On Motion Meſs.rs James White George Doherty James Ford, John Clack, and Samuel Frazier, were appointed a Committee of priviledges and Elections to whome was refered the certificates of the Returning officers of the differant Counties.

On motion Mr Tipton, Mr White, Mr Doherty and Mr Ford were appointed a committee to draw up rules and regulations for this House during the present Seſsion

The House adjourned untill tomorrow 9 OClock

Tuesday morning March 29th 1796

The House met according to adjournment

TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY

(to wit) James Ford, James Winchester, James Whi
George Doherty, John Clark, Samuel Frazier
John Tipton, George Rutledge.

Mr White proposed for Speaker James Winchester, Esq
who was Unanimously chosen And conducted to
the Chair.

Resolved, that Mr White, ~~Mr~~ Doherty, ~~Mr~~ Ford. Mr Clar
And ~~Mr.~~ Frazier, be a committee of Priveledges And
Elections

Resolved, that the following rules of decorum be ob=served during the sitting of this House.

First. That no member shall pass between the Speaker
And the person speaking

Second

Committee of
Preveleages of elections
Mr White
Mr Doherty
Mr Fiore
Mr Clark
Mr Frazier

of propositions &c
Mr Doherty
Mr Tipton

Finance
Mr Lewis
Mr Rutleage

Special Committee
Mr Lewis
Mr White

Mr Kelly from Saturday to Wednesday } lost Monday & Tuesday
Mr Kelly lost Monday the first day of meeting

Mr Doherty from Saturday
till Thursday — } lost monday

Mr Lewis took his seat on Tuesday

Mr McMin took his seat the 5th Apl — 20 inclusive
Mr McMin had leave from Thursday 20th

Mr McMin's mileag
160 miles

25

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he House adjourned untill to Morrow morning 9 O'Clock

Tuesday March 29th 1796

The House Met according to adjournment —

Mr Alexander Kelly the Member from Blount County appeared produced his Certificate, took the necessary Oaths for his qualification, And took his seat

Francis, Alexander, Ramsey was appointed Clerk And Nathaniel Buckingham Assistant Clerk

Thomas Bounds was appointed Door keeper

Mr White from the committee of Priviledges And elections reported as follows (to wit) the the committee of Priviledges and elections having taken under our consideration the Credentials of the following persons (to wit) James Ford, John Clack, George Rutledge John Tipton, Samuel Frazier, James White, George Doherty And James Winchester, Are of opinion they Are Satisfactory

And Also having taken under Our Consideration the

the contest between Joel Lewis and James Maxwell And having before us the certificates of the returning officers of Davidson County, do report, that from the aforesaid Certificates of the returning officer of Davidson County aforesaid, We are of opinion, that Joel Lewis is the member duly elected, to represent Davidson County in the Senate.

James White Ch.

On motion, Resolved, that the above report be concurred with —

Pursuant to which Mr Lewis appeared, was qualified and took his seat —

Received from the House of representatives the following Message to wit

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen

The House of Representatives is now formed and ready to proceed to the dispatch of public business

Ordered that the following Message be sent to the House of Representatives to wit

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

The Senate is also constituted and ready to proceed to the dispatch of public business; And propose to meet your house at such time and place as you may appoint, in order to open and publish the returns of the elections from the several Counties for Governor agreeably to the Constitution of this State

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

We propose Mr Doherty and Mr Tipton to act with such Gentlemen of your house, as you may appoint as a committee of propositions and grievances

Received from the House of Representatives the following Message (to wit)

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen

This House agree with the meeting by you proposed for examining the returns of the elections for Governor, and propose to convene in the House of Representatives at half after 12 O Clock

also

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen

The House of Representatives have proceeded to appoint a Committee of Finance on the part of this House to act in conjunction with such of your body as you may think proper to appoint for that purpose, and have nominated Mr Rhea, Mr Weakly, Mr Outlaw, Mr Johnston and Mr Houston

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Sent to the House of Representatives the following Message (to wit)

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen

This House concur with you in appointing a committee of Finance, and nominate on the part of this House Mr Lewis and Mr Rutledge to act in conjunction with the Gentlemen by you nominated

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Received from the House of Representatives the following Message (to wit)

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen

This House concurs with your message in appointing a committee of propositions and grievances and nominate on our part Messrs Lewis Hart, Henderson, Newell and Black to act in conjunction with the Gentlemen by you proposed

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[illegible]

TENNESSEE STATE LIBRARY

This House adjourned to the House of Representa
=tives Chamber, for the purpose of opening return
of election &c.

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The House again met in the Senate Chamber

after opening the several returns of the elections in
the different Counties in this State, and the Votes bein
summed up, it appears, that Citizen John Sevier
duly and constitutionally elected Governor of this St
which was accordingly announced by the Speaker of
the Senate, in the presence of both Houses of the G
=neral Assembly

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Received from the House of Representatives the fol
=lowing Message (to wit)

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen of the Senate

The House of Representatives have nominated
the Six following Members (to wit) Messrs Bla
Outlaw, Cocke, Johnston, Newell and Tort, to
act with such Gentlemen as you may appoi
on your part to wait upon his Excellency
John Sevier, and request his attendance in the
House of Representatives to morrow at 12 o'clo
to be qualified agreeably to the Constitution
of the State of Tennessee

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Sent to the House of Representatives the follow
=ing Message (to wit)

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen

We concur with your last Message and appoint on
the part of this House Messrs Lewis, Tom, and Kelly

to

to wait upon his Excellency John Sevier in company with the Gentlemen by you appointed for that purpose; we also concur with you as to the time And place for the Qualification of the Governor —

The House adjourned untill to Morrow Morning
9 O Clock

Wednesday 30th of March 1796
House Met According to adjournment

Received from the House of Representatives
the following Message (to wit)

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen
We have appointed a committee to report what bills of a public nature, may be necessary to be brought forward this Session, to Act in conjunction with such Members of your body as you may appoint for that purpose; And have named On Our part Mr Houston Mr Weakley, Mr Lewis, Mr Rhea, And Mr Gass

Ordered that the following Message be sent
to the House of Representatives (to wit)

Mr Speaker and Gentlemen
We concur with your Message respecting the appointing a committee to report what bills of a public nature may be necessary to be brought forward this Session, And appoint Mr Frazier and Mr Tipton on the part of this House to act with the Gentlemen by you nam

Ordered that the following Messages be sent
to the House of Representatives (to wit)

Mr

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

We propose that Messrs White, Lucas, and Ford on the part of this House, in company with such gentlemen of your House as you may appoint, wait upon his Excellency Governor Blount to inform him of the time And place appointed for the Qualification of his Successor in office and also to request his attendance there

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Received from the House of Representatives the following Message (to wit)

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

This House have appointed a committee to act in conjunction with such gentlemen as you may appoint to prescribe an Oath of Office to be administered to the Governor of this Sta And do appoint Messrs Lucas, Newell and Rhe

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Ordered that the following Message be sent to the House of Representatives (to wit)

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

We concur with you in appointing a committee to prescribe An Oath of office to be administered to the Governor, And on the part of this House appoint Messrs White, And Doherty to act in conjunction with the gentlemen by you named for that purpose

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Received from the House of Representatives the following Message (to wit)

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

We propose Mr Looney, Mr Black, and Mr Houston to act with such of your house as you may name to wait on the Judges and request their attendance in the Hou

Houſe of Repreſentatives at 12 O Clock to qualify the Governor

Ordered that the following Meſsage be ſent to the Houſe of Repreſentatives (to wit)

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

We cannot concur with your Meſsage reſpect=ing the qualification of the Governor by the Judges but propoſe in lieu thereof that the Clerk of the Senate adminiſter the Oaths to the Governor in preſence of both Houſes of the General Aſsembly —

Received from the Houſe of Repreſentatives the following Meſsage (to wit)

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

This Houſe propoſe to proceed to the election of two Senators, to repreſent this State in the Congreſs of the United States, and alſo a Secretary for this State; and that the Senate And Houſe of Repreſentatives do convene in the room of the Houſe of Repreſentatives for that purpoſe to morrow at 10 O clock A. M. and do propoſe Mr William Blount, Mr William Cocke, and Mr Joſeph Anderſon as Candidates for the Senate; And Mr William Maclin for Secretary

Ordered that the following Meſsage be ſent to the Houſe of Repreſentatives (to wit)

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

We concur with your Meſsage, as to the time And place for the election by you propoſed; and propoſe that Doctor James White be added to the nomination of Candidates for the Senate

Received from the Houſe of Repreſentatives the following Meſsages (to wit)

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

We concur with your Meſsage in appointing a com

Committee to wait upon his Excellency Governor B
to inform him of the time And place appointed for
qualification of his Successor in Office, and name
Our part. Mr Cantrell, Mr Crawford, Mr Beakly, a
Mr Gass

also

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen,

The form of the Oath prescribed for the qualification of the Governor is subjoined, which has been agreed to by this House and hereby forwarded for your concurrence — .

I A. B. do Solemnly Swear that I will Support the Constitution of the United States,
So help me God.

I A.B. do solemnly Swear that I will Support the Constitution of the State of Tennessee
So help me God

I A.B do solemnly Swear that I will faithfully execute the Office of Governor of the State of Tennessee pursuant to the Constitution And Laws thereof according to the best of my knowledge And abilities So help Me God

Received from the House of Representatives the following Message (to wit

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

We cannot agree with your proposals respecting the qualifying the Governor — we still adhere to our former proposals, and request a reconsideration on your part —

Ordered that the following Message be sent to the House of Representatives (to wit)
Mr Speaker and Gentlemen
upon reconsideration, we concur with your message relative to waiting upon the Judges to request their attendance to qualify the Governor, And appoint Mr Kelly And Mr Rutledge on behalf of this House to accompany the Gentlemen by You named for that purpose

This House adjourned to the Representatives Chamber,

This House again Met,

After the inauguration of his Excellency John Sevier An address by him was presented to both Houses of the General Assembly, which was read, And the same is Ordered to be inserted on the Journals; and also a copy thereof transmitted to the public Printer, that the same may be inserted in the Knoxville Gazette—
The address is as follows (to wit)

Gentlemen of the Senate and House of Representatives
The high and honorable appointment conferred upon me by the free suffrage of my countrymen fills my heart with Gratitude, which I trust my future life will manifest, I take this early opportunity to express to you my thanks in the strongest terms of acknowledgment — I shall labour to discharge with fidelity the — confidence reposed in me. and if such my exertions should prove satisfactory the first wish of my life Will be Gratified,

Gentlemen accept of my best wishes for your publick and Individual happiness. and relying upon your wisdom and pratriotism I have no doubt but the result of your deliberations will give permanency and success to our New system of Goverment so wisely calculated to secure the liberty and advance the happiness and prosperity of our fellow Citizens

John Sevier

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House adjourned untill to morrow Morning 9 O Clock

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Thursday Morning 31st March 1796

The House met According to adjournment

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Received from the House of Representatives the following Messages (to wit)

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

Mr Conway has moved for leave to withdraw the name of Mr Joseph Anderson from the Nomination of the Senate, with which Motion this House have agreed — the same is forwarded for your concurrence —

also

Mr Speaker And Gentlemen

This House propose to proceed to the Election of Senators for this State agreeably to the Order of the day and have Appointed On Our part Mr Sewell & Mr Tort to superintend the ballotting, And also propose that tickets be counted in presence of both Houses; and that the Speaker of the Senate pronounce the persons duly elected —

Ordered, that the following meſsage be ſent to the House of Representatives:—

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen,

We concur with your meſsage relative to the election and appointment on the part of this House, Meſs.rs Lewis & Doherty, to ſuperintend the balloting.— Mr. Tipton has moved, and has leave to withdraw the name of Dr. James White from the nomination of candidates for the Senate to which we request your concurrence

This House adjourned to the chamber of the House of Representatives:

Met again in their own chamber.

Both Houses of the General Aſsembly having convened in the Representatives' chamber, and agreeably to the order of the day, proceeded to the election for two Senators to represent this State in the Congreſs of the United States; also for a Secretary for this State, when it appeared, that William Blount and William Cocke, esquires, were duly & constitutionally elected Senators, and William Maclin, esquire was duly and constitutionally elected Secretary of State, which according to order was announced by the Speaker of the Senate in presence of both Houses—

Received from the House of Representatives the following meſsage:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen,

This House propose Mr. Johnston, Mr. Houston, Mr. Cocke

Mr. Newell & Mr. Rhea, a committee to act jointly with such of your body as you may appoint, to prepare an addreſs to present to Mr. William Blount and Mr. William Cocke, informing them of their being elected Senators to elect this State in the Congreſs of the United States.

Ordered, That the following meſsages be sent to the House of Representatives:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen,

We concur with you in appointing a committee to prepare an addreſs to the gentlemen who have been elected Senators, and appoint on our part Meſsrs. Ford & White to act with the gentlemen by you named for that purpose.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen,

We propose that an election by both Houses of the General Aſsembly be held to morrow morning at ten o'clock, in the Representatives chamber for three Judges of the Superior court for this State; also for a treasurer & attorney general of this State. We nominate for Judges, Mr. John McNairy, Mr. David Campbell, Mr. Joseph Anderson, and Mr. Archibald Roane; for treasurer, Mr. Nicholas Tate Perkins and Mr. Landon Carter; and for attorney general Mr. Hopkins Lacy & Mr. Willm. C.C. Claiborne, with which we request your concurrence

Adjourned till three o'clock, P.M.

Met according to adjournment.

Mr White from the committee appointed to prepare an addreſs to be preſented to citizens William Blount & Willm Cocke, presented the following, viz—

Citizen William Blount, late Governor of the Territory of the United States of America ſouth of the river Ohio,

Impreſsed with the grateful remembrance of your conduct, during the time you was Governor of the Territory of the United States of America ſouth of the river Ohio, now the ſtate of Tenneſsee, the General aſsembly of the ſaid ſtate, in the name of the people thereof, over whom you formerly presided, embrace the earliest moment to testify to you their entire approbation of your conduct, and attention to promote their happineſs, during your continuance in that office, the exercise of which was rendered more difficult and arduous by the frequent inroads of the neighbouring nations of Indians. We recollect, with pleasure, that under your administration, we, as a people, have experienced growing energy and increasing power; that your exertions in ſubordination to the federal government, have been the cause of the preſent peace, which for some time paſt has existed between us and the adjoining Indian tribes, and which we hope will long exist on the principles you have established. The Territorial government now being ended, we will only

Mr. Newell & Mr. Rhea, a committee to act jointly with such of your body as you may appoint, to prepare an addreſs to present to Mr. William Blount and Mr. William Cocke, informing them of their being elected Senators to ~~elect~~ this State in the Congreſs of the United States.

Ordered, That the following meſsage be sent to the House of Representatives:

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen,

We concur with you in appointing a committee to prepare an addreſs to the gentlemen who have been elected Senators, and appoint on our part Meſsrs. Ford & White to act with the gentlemen by you named for that purpose.

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Adjourned till three o'clock, P. M.

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Mr White from the committee appointed to prepare an addreſs to be presented to citizens William Blount & Willm Cocke, presented the following, viz—

Citizen William Blount, late Governor of the Territory of the United States of America South of the river Ohio,

Impreſsed with the grateful remembrance of your conduct, during the time you was Governor of the Territory of the United States of America South of the river Ohio, now the ſtate of Tenneſsee, the General aſsembly of the ſaid ſtate, in the name of the people thereof, over whom you formerly presided, embrace the earliest moment to testify to you their entire approbation of your conduct, and attention to promote their happineſs, during your continuance in that office, the exercise of which was rendered more difficult and arduous by the frequent inroads of the neighbouring nations of Indians. We recollect, with pleasure, ~~that~~ under your administration, we, as a people, have experienced growing energy and increasing power; that your exertions in ſubordination to the federal government, have been the cause of the present peace, which for some time paſt has existed between us and the adjoining Indian tribes, and which we hope will long exist on the principles you have established. The Territorial government now being ended, we will only